

Proposed Claims

35. The method of forming shapes of a combination catheter comprising:
- disposing a catheter tube in a human body, said catheter tube having a distal end portion fixed in a first curve such that the distal end portion of the catheter tube defines a first plane;
- disposing an inner medical element in the catheter tube, said inner medical element having a distal end portion;
- holding the distal end portion of the inner medical element in a second curve such that the distal end of the inner medical element is disposed substantially 90 degrees out of the first plane to form a medically usable shape
- holding the inner medical element in the medically usable shape to perform a medical procedure.
36. The method as set forth in claim 35 wherein the distal end portion of the inner medical element points toward a target in the human body disposed substantially out of the first plane.
37. The method as set forth in claim 36 wherein the distal end portion of the catheter tube points substantially at right angles away from the target.
38. The method as set forth in claim 35 further including forming the distal end portion of the combination catheter into an up-going shape.
39. The method as set forth in claim 35 further including forming the distal end portion of the combination catheter into a down-going shape.
40. A method of forming the shape of a combination catheter comprising:

disposing a catheter tube in a human body, said catheter tube having a distal end portion fixed in a first curve such that the distal end portion of the catheter tube defines a first plane;

disposing an inner medical element in the catheter tube, said inner medical element having a distal end portion;

holding the distal end portion of the inner medical element in a second curve such that the distal end of the inner medical element is disposed substantially out of the first plane so as to create an out-of-plane shape in the distal end portion of the combination catheter;

wedging the out-of-plane shaped distal end portion of the combination catheter against a wall in the human body to hold the combination catheter in place.

41. The method of forming and using a combination catheter comprising:

disposing a catheter tube in a human body, said catheter tube having a distal end portion fixed in a first curve such that the distal end portion of the catheter tube defines a first plane;

disposing an inner medical element in the catheter tube, said inner medical element having a distal end portion;

holding the distal end portion of the inner medical element in a second curve such that the distal end of the inner medical element is disposed substantially out of the first plane for a period of time sufficient to permit medical use of at least one of the catheter tube or the inner medical element;

moving at least one of the catheter tube and the inner medical element longitudinally while the distal end portion of the inner medical element is disposed substantially out of the first plane.

42. The method as set forth in claim 41 further including forming the distal end portion of the combination catheter into an up-going shape.

43. The method as set forth in claim 41 further including forming the distal end portion of the combination catheter into a down-going shape.